

JEAN ELIOT'S CHRONICLES OF CAPITAL SOCIETY DOINGS

Jean Eliot's Weekly Letter of Gossip Concerning Prominent Personages of Capital City

DEAR SUSAN:

Washington has discovered something new under the sun in the matter of festivities—Lady Grant's afternoon at home aboard a certain British warship, "somewhere on the Potomac." Censorship rules prevent the publication of anything definite about the where and why of the ship, but Lady Grant receives informally every Tuesday afternoon, and Washington folk are finding it an amusing thing to call upon a charming woman—who looks a wee bit like Mrs. Edmund Bonaparte—and at the same time to visit one of an ally's fighting craft, the unusual combination lending a touch of piquancy to the experience.

The ship is a slim, graceful craft, which, in spite of its dull gray paint, has the look of a pleasure boat. Indeed, I have been aboard, although I can't vouch for the accuracy of this statement, that she was originally a private yacht, the property of a Florida capitalist, was sold to the British government in defiance of our maritime laws, and is at present the subject of international litigation.

At any rate, she is now the flagship of Vice Admiral Sir William Lowther Grant, who, in addition to being naval liaison officer of the British embassy, is commanding officer of the British naval forces in American waters. By virtue of this fact he is required to live aboard ship, and has a special dispensation to have his wife with him. It used to be quite the usual thing, both in the American and the British navies, for the captain of a ship to have his wife with him; but now it simply "isn't done," and in occupying quarters aboard a cruiser in active service Lady Grant enjoys an almost unique distinction.

Admiral Grant is a splendid fighter with a fine record, and both he and his wife have made themselves very popular in the course of their short stay here. They are on excellent terms with the British embassy.

Washington hasn't really had much experience with entertaining aboard ship, although once or twice Senator and Mrs. Peter Goelet Gerry spent a week or two aboard the Owens, anchored in the Potomac, and used to give very smart dinners on board. The Joseph Letters, too, frequently gave parties on the "Goulds" yacht, when she was stopping on here preparatory to their starting on their trip around the world; and the Greenhills, which belonged first to the Reynolds and later to Mr. and

Mrs. Sylvanus Stokes, Jr., was the scene of many a merry cruise down the river before she was turned over to Uncle Sam to be used as a sub-chaser. Then, Mr. and Mrs. Holliday Meade lived aboard her father's (T. Coleman du Pont's) yacht in the river for several weeks last autumn before they were able to find quarters here.

Washington people change so rapidly nowadays that he or she who moves away is soon forgotten. This was borne in upon me forcibly the other day when I mentioned to several people the marriage of Virginia Louisa Summerlin and Dr. Blair Spencer, to be met by a vague "Virginia Summerlin, who is Virginia Summerlin?"

And yet four or five years ago there was no more prominent and popular young matron in Washington than this pretty young daughter of Brig. Gen. and Mrs. John A. Johnston. Moreover Dr. Spencer, who is now passed assistant surgeon, U. S. N., was a Washington man, a young physician with a splendid reputation as a children's specialist. He had a fine practice and one might almost say was "retained" by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beale McLean to look after their kiddies.

The wedding, which took place in Philadelphia, was quiet and hastily arranged, as Dr. Spencer's ship only put in for a short time. His bride will continue to make her home in the suburb of Philadelphia where she has lived for the last year or two.

"Boots" March and Major Joseph E. Swann, aid to her father, the acting chief of staff, were married yesterday, the wedding being the third in the March family in six months; and lots of people went out from Washington yesterday to attend the various out-of-town weddings—Mrs. Taber Martin, daughter of the Secretary of the Treasury; Sophie Blenheim; Margaret Rowland, daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Rowland of Pennsylvania; Rose Caperton, of Richmond, and the rest.

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WAISTS—Cotton Voiles, Linens and All Wash Materials.

BLOUSES—Georgettes, Crepe de Chines, Tub Silks, Novelties.



MRS. EARL NORTH.

Wife of Major North, Engineer Corps, U. S. A., and her daughter, Miss Betty North. Mrs. North was Miss Dorothy Gatewood, one of the three handsome daughters of Medical Director and Mrs. James Duncan Gatewood. Major North is at present on duty in the office of the chief of engineers.

MRS. WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

Wife of the Assistant Secretary of State, with Master William Phillips, Jr., Miss Beatrice Phillips, and the baby. Mrs. Phillips was Miss Caroline Drayton, of New York.

MME. CARL PAUL HUBSCHER.

Wife of Dr. Hubscher, first secretary of the Swiss legation, with her baby. She was Miss Elizabeth Schoepf, of Cincinnati. Dr. and Mme. Hubscher have a cottage at Chevy Chase for the summer and are deep in the mysteries of gardening.

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too, is the club's last link with a simpler day.

Being a lover of Washington's landmarks and historic places, most of which—witness the lovely old places in Georgetown—lie outside of the city, I wanted to keep with me all the people who were not there, the boys now overseas: Walker Beale, Chauncey Hackett, "Bobby" Patterson, Newbold Noyes, Coleman Jennings, Melville Waller—his still on this side, but may go over any day—Stuart Walcott and Albert Sturtevant, the last two "gone west," poor dears, and the girls, like Dorothy Williams McCombs, Catherine Rush Porter, Ethel Harciman—now Mrs. Henry Potter Russell—who used to haunt the club, and are now hard at work abroad.

Dudley Morgan New

Ensign in Navy.

But, dear me, this sort of thing will never, never do. I think what really started me on such sentimental reminiscences was the sight of young Dudley Morgan back in town after a year's absence and vainly searching about the club for some of his old playmates. He is now an ensign in the navy, recently commissioned, after spending many months at sea on a sub chaser, and has been ordered to Annapolis for six months or so.

The Morgans, by the way—Dr. and Mrs. James, Dudley Morgan and Eleanor Morgan—are planning to stay at their lovely Chevy Chase home pretty much all summer. They found that a summer in Washington, when one has a country place and a motor or two, isn't so bad after all, and are going to repeat the experiment this year.

It was news to me that both Coleman Jennings, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hennen Jennings, and their son-in-law, Charles Hackett, in France. Indeed, I didn't even know that Mr. Hackett—Lieutenant Hackett, I should say—had gone into the service. Heigho, I wonder how long it will be before he sees his baby daughter, born some ten days ago? Mrs. Hackett is with Mr. and Mrs. Jennings, and will go to their summer home on the North Shore with them later on.

Lieut. Robert Patterson, Lieut. Walker Beale, and Lieut. Newbold Noyes were all with the coffin from Camp Lee which went across not very long ago. Lieutenant Noyes, who is in the intelligence department, was on duty at the War College all winter, but was transferred to General Crenshaw's staff not long before he set sail. Mrs. Noyes picked up her goods and chattels and went to New York to join her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ewing, going on later with Mrs. Ewing to Sorrento, N. J., where the Ewings have a summer home.

Convey Duty of Varied Sorts.

Later on at the club I heard a bonnet which cheered me up considerably. A pretty woman on the arm of a sun-browned sailor man, a captain, I believe, strolled up to a group standing near me and apologized to one of the ladies for having seen nothing of her all winter.

"My husband's been on convey duty, you see, and I've been too unsettled to do anything. Next year, I hope."

Whereupon the husband broke in, "Next year I hope I'll be on convey duty again, but here in Washington," and he smiled at his wife in the dearest way.

Did you ever pause to consider how far we have traveled since the day not so very long ago when Chevy Chase was "the only club worth belonging to, my dear," and set itself up to be exclusive? It is still very well worth belonging to, of course, although when it comes to exclusiveness the lines are not drawn very fine. But now we have THE Country Club, Grasslands, the old Whitney place; the Montgomery Country Club, the Lock Tavern Club at Great Falls, which is immensely popular with motor parties, not forgetting the Columbia Country Club, the Washington Golf and Country Club, such lesser golf clubs as Bannockburn and Kirkside, and the very latest in clubdom, Lehigh Lodge.

This is a very delightful little institution, tucked away in the woods near where Nebraska avenue and Massachusetts avenue extended come together, is maintained by the Washington Riding and Hunt Club for the benefit of its members, and serves principally as a place where they may come together after a ride through the country for a cup of tea or an informal dance. Mrs. Thomas F. Logan was hostess at the tea dance which followed the "all-day ride," one of the series being given weekly under the auspices of the club, on Tuesday afternoon, and everybody had a most wonderful time, those who motored out for tea as well as the riders.

Golf and Country Club

Has Musicals.

The Washington Golf and Country Club, by the way, is inaugurating a real innovation in the matter of country club activities, a series of musicals to be given on summer evenings. Noted artists will appear from time to time, the series beginning this Tuesday evening, when the entertainment committee, of which Roy L. Neuhouser is chairman, will present Felix Garziglia in piano recital.

I can think of no more delightful spot to listen to music, for the little stone and shingle club house which nestles among the Virginia hills

We have them here—the choicest and most appropriate blooms for the occasion. Or if you are far from someone graduating "back home" just let us send a bunch of flowers by telegraph.

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Furs Repaired

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Fads, Fancies and Foibles of Fashionable Society—How The Capital Amuses Itself

Harvey home in Lamont street until she gets further orders. Miss Harvey is a graduate of Columbia Hospital and an experienced nurse, but admits that she put in a good many hours of her stay abroad smoothing and folding wrapping paper and salvaging bits of string—girls who are thinking to go abroad to smooth the fevered brows of soldier laddies take notice.

Such work as this, with carrying trays, washing dishes, working in the diet kitchen, etc., usually falls to the lot of the inexperienced helpers, and Miss Harvey chanced to come in for that sort of thing only because her hospital—it is reserved for Amer-

ican soldiers and civilian cases—was not crowded up to the time she left. There were nurses enough in plenty to care for the patients and over there it is of vital importance to have every scrap of string and bit of paper, for they're both scarcer than the proverbial hen's teeth. In Toul, for instance, according to Miss Harvey, dry groceries are never wrapped, but if you request it especially the shops will wrap a piece of meat or a chicken—provided you can secure the meat or the chicken—for you, in newspaper possibly, or a bit of leftover wall paper.

Miss Harvey has applied for transfer to the hospital—it is reserved for Amer-

(Continued on Page 13.)



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